

**County of San Diego  
Trauma Decision Algorithm**

Major Trauma Victim	<b>ASSESS VITAL SIGNS/LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor component of Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score &lt;6</li> <li>Systolic Blood Pressure &lt;90 mmHG</li> <li>Respiratory distress, respiratory rate &lt;10 or ≥29 (adult), &lt;20 for infant &lt;1 year, or need for ventilatory support</li> <li>Room-air pulse oximetry &lt;90% or desaturation from baseline if oxygen dependent</li> <li><b>Peds:</b> Abnormal Appearance &amp;/or Abnormal Work of Breathing &amp;/or Abnormal Circulation</li> </ul>	YES	Call Trauma Base, Transport to appropriate Trauma Center <u>as Major Trauma Victim (MTV)</u>
	NO		
	<b>ASSESS ANATOMY OF INJURY</b>		
Major Trauma Victim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, or extremities proximal to elbow or knee</li> <li>Chest wall instability or deformity (e.g., flail chest)</li> <li>Two or more proximal long-bone fractures</li> <li>Degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity</li> <li>Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle</li> <li>Suspected pelvic fractures</li> <li>Open or depressed skull fracture</li> <li>Paralysis</li> <li>Neurologic/Vascular deficit of extremities</li> <li>Active bleeding requiring a tourniquet or wound packing with continuous pressure</li> </ul>	YES	Call Trauma Base, Transport to appropriate Trauma Center <u>as Major Trauma Victim (MTV)</u>
	NO		
	<b>ASSESS MECHANISM OF INJURY</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fall from height ≥10 feet (all ages)</li> <li>High Risk Auto Crash: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intrusion, including roof ≥12 inches, ≥18 inches any site</li> <li>Ejection (partial or complete) from vehicle</li> <li>Death in same passenger compartment</li> <li>Vehicle telemetry data consistent with a high risk of injury</li> <li>Vehicle rollover with unrestrained patient</li> <li>Need for extrication for entrapped patient</li> </ul> </li> <li>Auto vs pedestrian/bicyclist thrown, run over, or with significant (≥ 20 mph) impact</li> <li>Rider ejected from mode of transport (e.g., motorcycle, ATV, horse, scooter, bicycle) with significant impact</li> <li>Exposure to blast or explosion</li> <li>Combination trauma with burns</li> <li>Significant crush injury</li> </ul>	YES	Call Trauma Base, Transport to appropriate Trauma Center <u>as Major Trauma Victim (MTV)</u>
	NO		
Special	<b>ASSESS SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age &lt;5 or ≥55</li> <li>Low-level falls in young children (age &lt;5 years) or older adults (age ≥65 years) with significant head impact</li> <li>Confirmed or suspected strangulation</li> <li>Special, high-resource healthcare needs</li> <li>Bleeding disorders</li> <li>Anticoagulant or antiplatelet therapy, e.g., warfarin or clopidogrel, except ASA</li> <li>Pregnancy ≥ 20 weeks</li> </ul>	YES	Call Base, transport to appropriate Trauma Center or Non-Designated Trauma Center Hospital per BHO <u>MTV activation not required</u>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suspicion of non-accidental trauma in a pediatric patient or geriatric patient</li><li>• Poor baseline physiologic reserve, e.g., severe cardiac and/or respiratory disease</li><li>• EMS provider judgment</li></ul> |  |
|  | <div>NO</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-evaluation with medical direction and transport to appropriate facility</li></ul>  | When in doubt, take patient to appropriate trauma center |






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